

GENDER INEQUALITY IN *JOAN OF ARC* MOVIE (1999)

DIRECTED BY CHRISTIAN DUGUAY :

A FEMINIST APPROACH



RESEARCH PAPER

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CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of Study

Every country has a story, for example, story about how to survive the country or maybe how to get the freedom of a country. If people talk about how to get a country, people will think of war. Usually, the leader of a war is a man. But, maybe people do not know if many countries got the freedom by a women leader. The phenomena of gender identity that is formed by the custom take women in second position. In the patriarchal system, the gender identity is completely injustice. Men “appropriate all superior social roles and keep women behind subordinated and exploited” (Mandell, 2003: 14). The men are socialized into competitiveness, rationally, and independence that is appropriate in public sphere. Here, men handle economic and social aspect. Whereas, women are identified relational, contextual, integrative that is appropriate in domestic sphere (Mandell, 2003: 12).

The usual phenomenon in ancient French in 1412 was gender inequality. In 1412, there were some people who had assumption that women position was under man position. Many people though that man can did anything. Men worked in the land; man joined the war to saved the country. But, women had weakness physical. On 1412, especially in France, a woman who gave birthed a daughter, her husband killed their daughter. That was tragic phenomena, when women had not pretending on men’s eyes.

An example of movie that carries out gender inequality phenomenon is a film by Christian Duguay entitled *Joan of Arc*. This movie was released on USA 16 May 1999. The duration of this film is around 2 hours 58 minutes. It is of course the long movie. There are many awards for this movie, such as: On Caesar Awards in France this movie became the winner on Best Costume Design (Meilleurs Costume), Best Sound (Meilleur Son) category. *Joan of Arc* movie also be nominated as best cinematography, best director, best editing, best film and best production design category in year 2000. Not only that, *Joan of Arc* became Nominated on best costume designed, and best production design category on Golden Trailer Awards on year 1999. The last award is became the winner on Lumiere Awards, France on category best director and best film on 1999.

This movie also got award in Motion Picture Sound Editors in USA on 2000. *Joan of Arc* movie be the winner on Golden Reel Award on best sound editing. *Joan of Arc* movie also be nominated on year 2000 in Razzie award Worst Actress for Milla Jovovich

Response of the audience is variety. There are assumptions that the film is great film. But, there is assumption that film is bad film. When people watch this movie people will know that the film Joan of Arc was basically portrayed as a delusional, over-intense, angry girl who threw tantrums when things did not go her way. The writer thinks they have opinion if it is a bad film because the message of the film challenges the legend. Some people have opinion if the story of this movie is so far from the real of legend. That makes the audience feel bored when watching this movie, because, many parts of this movie just show the

Jeanne's arrogance. In a forum communication that ever got discussion about *Joan of Arc Movie*, the point that becomes discussion is about: Why does God give permission to a person that bring, their message be dead because a burning process? Where is the God on that time? And the people on that forum said " This movie makes upset. Until now, as the viewer tries to watch this movie and try to understand. But, still confuse. Actually, who is giving Joan command? Ghost or God. The conclusion is, there are some people said if this movie made confused. But, there are some people think this is a great film because, this movie is about reality, the betraying of Joan included. Anybody watches this movie will know if this is a tragic movie. It is the reason why the writer chooses the movie as the object of research.

Joan of Arc Movie was produced by Christian Duguay. Christian Duguay was born on January 3, 1970. There are many movie was produced by Christian Duguay. Firstly, *Joan of Arc* also known as *Jeanne d'Arc* on 1999. Secondly, became co-executive producer On *Hitler: The Rise of Evil* on 2003. Thirdly, *Human Trafficking* on 2006. In 1992 *Live Wire*, *Model by Day* in 1994. Became the camera operator on *Snowbound: The Jim and Jennifer Stolpa Story* on 1994. *Lies My Mother Told Me* on 2005. "Red Light" *The Hunger* on 1997.

Joan of Arc movie has Milla Jovovich as the major actor, Jean. Jean is one of women from Domremy village (In the war zone of Northern France). She was born on 1412 from Isabelle Romee and Jacques d'Arc. When Joan was child she prayed to God in a church. In the middle of praying, she listened a voice and she looked the Saint Margaret who was in front of her. Not only Saint Margaret that

gave the voice, but there are Saint Catherine and Saint Michael. Jean felt surprised. Jean listened, if they command her to do one mission. The voices commanded her to aid the Dauphin, Charles, in his fight against England and Burgundy, and to see him crowned as the King of France at Reims.

Once day, Joan asks permission to Sir Roberts in order to meet Dauphin in Chinon easily. She infiltrates in Sir Roberts's soldiers band. Joan hopes, in order to Sir Roberts give permission because Joan has a great mission, which is Joan has to help Dauphin to file claim his throne and to unite France. Sir Roberts does not consider Joan because Joan is a woman. Sir Roberts convinces if she is serious or no, whereas Dauphin's advisor fails to help him. Joan assumes that Dauphin is who determines future of France. Sir Roberts still will not to help Joan. That night, Joan decides to sleep in church and she meets a religious sister. There, she is kind to villagers. The villagers are very poor. Joan decides to ask some help to other village with writing a letter informing if there is any people that need protection must come in Vaucouleurs wall protection, and it is signed by Maid of Lorraine. Finally, Sir Roberts and villager believe that Joan is Maid of Lorraine. And Sir Roberts gives permission to Joan to meet Dauphin. He also asks Joan and soldier to guard Joan.

When the trip to Chinon, Joan and soldiers meet the just colonized area, and one church St. Catherine has been burned away. Joan and her soldiers assume that is not act of Burgundy, but act of black knight. Joan encourages herself to enter into church and praying. When praying, suddenly Joan sees a sword and she is

feels whisper from St. Catherine to take the sword. Finally, the people believe that Joan is Maid of Lorraine because Joan is successful to get the sword.

Joan and the soldiers back to continue the trip to Chinon. In the trim, Joan cut her hair seen like man in order to not disparage. Upon arriving in Chinon at Reims, Charles wants to try whether is Joan really Maid of Lorraine or not. Charles assumes that Joan is really Maid of Lorraine, but the Bishop does not believe. To prove it, Charles expressly hides in the middle of guests, while Charles asks his advisor to sit in King's throne. If Joan can find Charles, so all people will believe that Joan is Maid of Lorraine. Based on light guidance and voice from St. Margareth, Joan can find Charles. That happen makes Charles believe that Joan is Maid of Lorraine.

After all people believe that Joan is Maid of Lorraine, so Joan tells her mission to Charles. Charles believes to Joan and he asks the Joan to be the leader of France war soldier to against Burgundy. Charles also asks La Hire to help Joan as the leader. In the other side, Joan's father is not proud of Joan. Because, he assumes if women can not do anything and never suitable be leader in war. But Joan never cares to that.

In moment of war, Joan and her troops become the winner. In a war in Champagne area, Joan's brother is died. When, Joan's troop goes to war with Burgundian's armies, finally Joan is surrender. In Burgundy's base camp, Joan meets Phillip. Someday, when Joan is talking with Phillip, suddenly Phillip is dead caused by her serious illness. So, people in the Palace have assumption that Joan is the murderer of Philip. Based on this happen, the England's trials do

execution to Joan. The Reason why Joan gets execution is the Bishop accuses Joan do a heresy and kill the Philip. So, to make sure if Joan is not wrong, Joan must ready to burn. If the body of Joan is not burnt, so she never does heresy. If her body is burnt it means she does heresy. Joan was burned on May 30, 1431 on nineteen years old. The witness at Joan's execution claim that, Joan's heart never burned.

Like Joan prediction, 7 years after she died Burgundy is part of France and England was gone out. Charles is success became the King during 30 years. Joan was canonized 500 years later.

There are four reasons why the writer is interested to study on this movie: first, because this movie tells about a legend from France. Second is about conflicting value. Third reason is plot of this movie. Additionally the fourth reason, because the gender inequality becomes the main issue of the film.

The first reason is, because this film tells about one of legend from France. That legend is about one of the famous Saint, Saint Joan. Christian Duguay tries to make this movie interesting. In fact, there are no many directors that are courageous to make a legend movie.

The second is about conflicting value. In this film, there are many conflicts value. Jeanne struggles to make Charles believe that Charles will become the first King in France and then makes France to be unite and the last is about Joan's execution.

Third, is about plot of this movie. Plot of this movie is attractive. Beginning from Joan still child that has big ambition to making France be united. Then,

Joan's struggle makes Burgundy unite with France. And the last she would get execution to safety Cauchon. It shows completely attractive plot.

The last reason, *Joan of Arc* movie is showing of gender inequality issues. When Joan tries to making Sir Robert believe if she wants to go to Chinon to meet Dauphin, Sir Robert is laughed. Not only that, Joan cuts her hair because there is assumption that a soldier is a man, not a woman, etc. This reason makes the writer want to analyze about the issues.

Gender is different between men and women in the socio-cultural aspect. Men can disguise as women, and women can disguise as men. Probably, those are caused by the confining for women to participate in society. Gender inequality can be seen from women's subordinate, violence, women's boundary, unbalance in burden work and stereotype. Gender inequality can make women loose their opportunity in society. Women have been regarded as behind men. Many women appear to be passive, non practical, subordinate, because women are repressed, confined and driven crazy by men. Beside that, there are several opinions that women are behind, as objects, irrational weak. Those are different from men in which they are strong, achieve and rational. Men also have actions, qualities and high characteristics. Finally, gender differences create many problems for women in social life. Women cannot explore their opportunities, their capabilities and their opinions. Gender differences also create women oppression that is done by men. For reducing these problems, several women attempt to prove that women can do anything like men.

According to those aspects, the researcher would like to explore and analyze gender inequality in *Joan of Arc Movie* based on the feminist approach, and the title is **GENDER INEQUALITY IN JOAN OF ARC MOVIE (1999) DIRECTED BY CHRISTIAN DUGUAY : A FEMINIST APPROACH.**

B. Literature Review

The writer finds two researchers about *Joan of Arc Movie*, the research was from a journal conducted by Peggy Maddox (2004) entitled *Retiring the Maid: the Last Joan of Arc Movie*. In Peggy Maddox's journal is an analysis of the way in which this film completely reshapes image of Joan of Arc. Secondly the research was from a journal conducted by Carl Theodor Dreyer (2002) entitled *La Passion de Jeanne d' Arc 1928*. On that journal the researcher explains about the structural elements of *Joan of Arc Movie*

The differences between the journal and this research are: if in this research the writer tries to make a gender inequality be the theme. But on the journal the researcher analyze the general aspect from *Joan of Arc Movie*. In this research the writer not only explains about technical elements of the movie, but also the all of structural elements of *Joan of Arc Movie*.

As so far, the researcher has not found other researchers that research *Joan of Arc Movie* directed by Christian Duguay in Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta.

C. Limitation of the Study

The researcher focuses on analyzing women character and it is focused on gender inequality of Jeanne as major character in *Joan of Arc*, viewed from the feminist approach.

D. Problem Statement

The main problem of the research is “How is gender inequality reflected in *Joan of Arc Movie?*”

E. Objective of the study

The objectives of the study are as follow:

1. To analyze the structural elements in the movie of *Joan of Arc*
2. To analyze gender inequality in Christian Duguay’s *Joan of Arc* based on feminist approach

F. Benefits of the Study

1. Theoretical : To give additional information to the larger body of knowledge, particularly to the study of Christian Duguay’s *Joan of Arc*.
2. Practical : to get deep understanding in literary field about Christian Duguay’s *Joan of Arc* based on Feminist approach.

G. Research Method

1. In writing the research paper, the writer employs the qualitative research. Qualitative research is a research which results in the descriptive data in the form observed people or behaviors (Moleong,1983: 3). Then, the steps of

conduction this Qualitative study are (a) determining the object of the research (b) determining the source of the data (c) determining the method of data collection, and (d) determining the technique of data analysis.

2. The technique of collecting data purposed sampling. Where the researcher take sampled of dialogue and ellipse of picture of the movie then used it as a starting point to analyze the issue. The analysis of the sample and dialogue and ellipse of picture could be used as a representation of a general phenomenon in social life. In order to make the data more complete, the researcher is doing some steps. The necessary steps are as follows:

- a. Watching movie and finding out the important sentence on the dialogues.
- b. Reading the script of the movie.
- c. Reading the books that are connected to the research.
- d. Browsing to the internet to get some information articles that related to the research
- e. Finding out the important data
- f. Arranging the important data based on its.
- g. Developing the data that are provided.

3. Technique for Analyzing Data

The data are analyzed by using descriptive analysis, It concerns with structural element of the movie and feminist analysis. The steps are:

- a. Classifying the data

- b. Verifying the data
- c. Interpreting the data based on underlying theories.

H. Research Paper Organization

Research paper organization is divided into five chapters. The first chapter is introduction which consists of Background of The Study, Literature Review, Limitation of the study, problem statement, and objective of the study, benefit of the study, research Method and Paper organization.

The second chapter is Underlying Theory, which consists of Nation of Feminism, Basic of concept feminism, Structural element of the movie, Technical Elements and Theoretical Application.

The third Chapter consists of Structural Analysis.

The fourth chapter consists of Feminist analysis that consists of Women's Position, Women's right, Women's Role, Women's Participation, and Discussion.

And the Last chapter is Conclusion and Suggestion.